

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 24 have been amended.

An Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with this Amendment. It is requested that the Examiner consider the references cited in that Information Disclosure Statement and return an initialed Form PTO-1449 to Applicant's representative.

Claims 1-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Ito et al. (Ito), U.S. Patent No. 5,970,285. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ito fails to disclose a process cartridge with a charger (that uniformly charges the surface of an image carrier) located at a first section of four sections and a developing member located at a second section of the four sections that is opposite to the first section, as recited in claim 1 and as similarly recited in claim 6. Ito also fails to disclose a process cartridge with a charger (that uniformly charges the surface of an image carrier) located along a straight line that connects a photosensitive drum shaft and a developing roller shaft, as recited in claim 24.

Ito discloses an image forming apparatus with a photosensitive member 1 (Fig. 1). A developing apparatus 3, a transfer roller 4, a fur brush 6 and a magnetic brush 2 surround the photosensitive member 1. The magnetic brush 2 uniformly charges the surface of the photosensitive member 1 (col. 4, lines 59-65). The fur brush 6 uniformly charges residual toner particles on the photosensitive member 1 (col. 7, lines 19-28).

Ito fails to disclose all of the features recited in claims 1 and 6 because the magnetic brush 2 (that uniformly charges the surface of the photosensitive member 1) is not located at a section (defined by two perpendicular lines that are perpendicular to a center of the photosensitive member 1) that is opposite to a section of the developing apparatus 3. The magnetic brush 2 also is not located along a straight line that connects a photosensitive drum

shaft and a developing roller shaft, as recited in claim 24. Ito's magnetic brush 2 is instead located above the photosensitive member 1 (as shown in Fig. 1)

Contrary to what is asserted in the Office Action, Ito's fur brush 6 does not correspond to the charger of claims 1, 6 and 24 because the fur brush 6 does not uniformly charge the surface of the photosensitive member 1. Ito's fur brush 6 only charges residual toner particles on the photosensitive member 1 (col. 7, lines 19-28). One having ordinary skill in the art would readily understand that fur brush 6 is not provided to, and does not, uniformly charge the photosensitive member 1. Ito expressly states that brush 2 charges member 1 and that brush 6 charges the residual toner. Ito would have stated that brush 6 charges member 1 if it did so.

In view of the foregoing, Ito fails to disclose all of the features recited in claims 1, 6 and 24 as well as the additional features recited in their dependent claims. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Scott M. Schulte
Registration No. 44,325

JAO:SMS/ccs

Attachment:
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: October 20, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--